

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS: This Listing of the Claims replaces all previous versions of the claims. Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
a high definition television (HDTV) comprising an interconnect; and
a video receiving device configured to be coupled to a video service provider headend and comprising an interconnect, wherein the video receiving device and the HDTV are configured such that responsive to the interconnect of the HDTV being initially electrically coupled to the interconnect of the video receiving device, the HDTV presents a data signal to the video receiving device, the video receiving device determines whether the HDTV is in fact an HDTV, and responsive to determining that the HDTV is an HDTV, the video receiving device presents the data signal to the headend,

wherein the video receiving device is further configured to, responsive to determining that the HDTV is not an HDTV, refrain from presenting the data signal to the headend.

2-8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the service provider headend is at least one of a cable television provider headend and a satellite television headend.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the headend is coupled to the video receiving device via a network, and the network comprises hybrid fiber coaxial cable.

11. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

coupling a video receiving device to a service provider headend, wherein the video receiving device has an interconnect;

responsive to a video viewing device being initially electrically coupled to the interconnect of the video receiving device, the video viewing device presenting a data signal to the interconnect of the video receiving device;

responsive to the video receiving device receiving the data signal, the video receiving device determining whether the video viewing device is a high-definition television (HDTV); ~~and~~

responsive to determining that the video viewing device is an HDTV, the video receiving device sending the data signal to the service provider headend; and

responsive to determining that the video viewing device is not an HDTV, the video receiving device refraining from sending the data signal to the service provider headend.

12-17. (Canceled).

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the service provider headend is at least one of a cable television provider headend and a satellite television provider headend.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising coupling the video receiving device to the headend via a network, the network comprising hybrid fiber coaxial cable.

20. (Currently Amended) A television receiving device configured to verify that a high-definition television (HDTV) has been coupled to the television receiving device, the HDTV having an HDTV digital video interface (DVI) interconnect, the television receiving device comprising a DVI interconnect, wherein the television receiving device is configured to be electrically coupled to a headend, the television receiving device and the HDTV being further configured such that responsive to the HDTV being initially electrically coupled to the television receiving device, the HDTV DVI interconnect presents a data signal to the DVI interconnect of the television receiving device, the television receiving device determines whether the HDTV is in fact an HDTV, and if so, the television receiving device sends the data signal to the headend,

the television receiving device being further configured to, responsive to determining that the HDTV is not an HDTV, refrain from sending the data signal to the headend.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising an interconnect, the apparatus being configured to receive a video signal received from a service provider, to receive a data signal from the interconnect, and, responsive to receiving the data signal from the interconnect, to determine whether the data signal is generated by a high-definition television (HDTV) and, if so, to present the data signal to the service provider,

wherein the apparatus is further configured to, responsive to determining that the data signal is not generated by a high-definition television (HDTV), refrain from presenting the data signal to the service provider.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the data signal represents a manufacturer of a high-definition television device connected to the interconnect.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
receiving at a receiver a video signal from a service provider;
receiving a data signal at an interconnect of the receiver;
responsive to receiving the data signal at the interconnect, the receiver determining whether the data signal is generated by a high-definition television (HDTV); ~~and~~
responsive to determining that the data signal is generated by an HDTV, the receiver presenting the data signal to the video service provider; and
responsive to determining that the data signal is not generated by an HDTV, the receiver refraining from presenting the data signal to the video service provider.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the data signal represents a manufacturer of the HDTV.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the data signal represents a model of the HDTV.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the video receiving device comprises a set top box (STB).

29. (Canceled).

30. (Previously Presented) The television receiving device of claim 20, wherein the television receiving device comprises a set top box (STB).

31. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the apparatus comprises a set top box (STB).

32-38. (Canceled).